

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3488

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: AIFLD PROPOSAL FOR CARIBBEAN LABOR ECONOMICS RESEARCH

REF: STATE 092183

1. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE PROPOSAL IN THE REFTEL WITH LOCAL LABOR LEADERS AND WITH THE BRITISH LABOR ADVISOR. THE CONCENSUS OF OPINION IS:

A. YES, THE IDEA IS A VERY GOOD ONE. BELIZEAN UNIONS ARE IN THEIR INFANCY. THEIR ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES AND FINANCING ARE STILL WEAK. THUS, ANY ORGANIZATION THAT CAN PROVIDE THEM WITH USEFUL INFORMATION WILL BE WELCOMED INDEED.

B. BECAUSE OF THE PRECARIOUS STATE OF THEIR FINANCES, NO UNION NOR UNION ORGANIZATION HERE IS PREPARED TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THE RUNNING OF SUCH A CENTER.

2. WE FIND THE ABOVE REASONING COMPELLING. THUS, AIFLD SHOULD NOT EXPECT MORE THAN GOOD WISHES FROM THE BELIZEAN LABOR MOVEMENT AT LEAST FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS. DRISCOLL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

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